



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **LEE COUNTY IT SYSTEMS/APPLICATIONS ENGINEER GRADUATES FROM CGCIO PROGRAM**

LEE COUNTY, NC – July 29, 2021 – Lee County Information Technology Systems/Applications Engineer Kelly Jernigan successfully graduated from the 2020-2021 Certified Government Chief Information Officers (CGCIO) Program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's School of Government last month.

The CGCIO program is the first local government specific program for CIOs in the nation and began in 2005. The program is designed for local government Information Technology Directors and Chief Information Officers whose challenging responsibilities require a broad understanding of management, leadership, legal, regulatory and enterprise topics. The course is approximately 240 hours in length and course instruction covers strategic technology planning, communication, emerging technology trends, risk assessment and management, acquisition management, change management, leadership, cybersecurity and legal issues related to technology.

Jernigan is one of the 45 local government, state agency, community college and K-12 education IT leaders in the state of North Carolina who successfully completed the course this year. Over the course of its existence, the CGCIO program has graduated over 2000 public sector technology leaders across the nation.

"In Lee County's Information Technology (IT) Department, I have a standing goal for all IT staff to be certified Government Chief Information Officers (CGCIO)," said Lee County Government IT Director Kyle Edwards. "They are able to meet this goal through the CGCIO certification program offered at UNC Chapel Hill's School of Government. This program offers invaluable insight into how IT applies to each department, the County's citizenry and elected officials across the organization while also teaching those that go through the course how IT is used to enable the County to achieve its local, strategic and economic goals. Kelly Jernigan was able to complete the course with flying colors while also continuing to fulfill his duties in the IT department. This exemplifies his commitment, dedication and passion to Lee County and his IT team."

For additional information and questions, please contact Hailey Hall, Communications Specialist at (919) 718-4605 or [hhall@leecountync.gov](mailto:hhall@leecountync.gov).

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